

July 8, 2003

House Passes Department of Defense Appropriations Act Boeing's EA-18G Growler sustains support

WASHINGTON, D.C.- The United States House of Representatives approved the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for FY 2004. H.R. 2658 provides a total of \$368.7 billion in new discretionary spending authority for the Department of Defense for FY 2004- \$4.3 billion more than appropriated in FY 2003.

The bill also includes funding for important defense projects including Boeing's EA-18G, a project long-championed by Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO). The Growler, a Super Hornet version of a radar jamming aircraft, will replace the Navy's aging fleet of Prowlers that are used to jam enemy radar and electronically counter attempts to attack U.S. aircraft during combat.

"When produced, the Growler will significantly increase our forces electronic warfare capability, increase combat survivability for our pilots as well as extend the Super Hornet production line in St. Louis," said Akin, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

H.R. 2658 also procures:

- \$2.9 Billion for 42 of Boeing's F/A-18EF fighter aircraft
- \$2.1 billion for 11 of Boeing's C-17 aircraft
- \$724 Million for Navy and Air Force Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) produced at Boeing's St. Charles facility
- \$1.7 Billion for Future Combat Systems.